



# Smarties

For faculty and staff of Gateway Technical College

## **Continuing the community chat ...**

The conversation has begun, discussing each of our individual experiences here at Gateway Technical College. Many have weighed in on the first two conversations – teaching, and learning as well as planning – but there’s still room left for those wishing to weigh in on the next three conversations. The topic, “Commitment to creative partnering that serves our diverse community” is underway, with then two more conversations remaining. Those looking to attend a future meeting or to see results of the first two are urged to look at Gateway’s Intranet for more details.

Those who spoke at the teaching and learning conversation said things such as “My instructor is a people person” and “employers love Gateway students.” Remember, the conversations are an ideal way for you to help chart the future of the college – and make sure the good things about Gateway remain. To join in the conversation, please note that time and dates are on the Intranet, you can submit comments there or you can e-mail [hlc-conversations@gtc.edu](mailto:hlc-conversations@gtc.edu) and you’ll be contacted to set up your personal conversation.

It doesn’t matter how short or how long you’ve been here – we want to know what you have to say.

## **Degree of graduation**

It’s that time of the year again, when we celebrate student success and Gateway’s role in changing the lives of its students. A little reminder for those who want to participate: Graduation ceremonies will be May 20 at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside’s Sports & Activity Center. Adult High School graduation will be at 4 p.m., and the diploma and degree ceremony will be held at 7 p.m.

## **Snowball effect**

Closing the college during the December holidays didn’t close the books at Gateway. During the holiday recess, students were encouraged to make their required tuition payments using the Gateway Web site. They could make full or partial payments from the Web – and pay, they did. A total of 495 students made payments through the Web site of \$303,560 from December 22 through January 6.

## **By the numbers:**

**43,000:** Number of Web site hits on [www.advancingbiotech.com](http://www.advancingbiotech.com), the location for the three virtual modules prepared by Gateway faculty members.

**21,545:** Our student headcount for the entire school year.

**11,568:** Our spring student headcount as of March 19.

**520:** Number of class hours for students in Gateway Technical College’s Police Academy.

**500:** Number of people attending meetings or events at the Horizon Center from September through December.

**347:** Number of post-secondary graduates in December.

**70:** Number of Adult High School graduates in December.

## **Elkhorn: Covering book design**

Students helped Gary Kirby design a cover for his new book. Kirby, an instructor of communication skills, recently published his newest book, “Bridge Out: Full Speed Ahead.” He teamed up with students in the graphic design professional practices class and instructor Michelle DeVorse to produce a cover for the book. Cover designs were drafted, presented and 10 ultimately submitted. Briana Heth created the selected design and was given credit in Kirby’s book.

### **Kenosha: Dissertation recognition**

Tammi Summers, who in December received her doctoral degree in urban education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, was awarded with Dissertation of the Year 2007 for the college's Urban Education program. Summer's dissertation focused on faculty experiences in teaching adults with disabilities. Tammi is a special needs instructor on the Kenosha Campus.

### **Racine: Lighting the way**

The Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language programs hope to expand its partnership with the Racine Lighted Schoolhouse Project through a Community Development Block Grant they applied for to expand family programs to two more centers. The programs would be for selected Parks and Recreation community centers. Adult Basic Education already operates at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Center and Dr. John Bryant Center.

### **Catalog a snap to center**

Snap-On has selected the Horizon Center as the cover for its international product catalog. It features the large bay area of the building. Snap-On also features the center in its Snap-On Tech magazine, which is sent to auto technicians throughout the country.

### **Returns from election show students win**

A partnership between WGTD and Armitage Academy during Kenosha's primary election produced results before even political pundits could predict them. The partnership forged by WGTD general manager Dave Cole and Armitage officials resulted in WGTD becoming the only source for early returns in the city. And the partnership will continue its early political predictions at the April 1 general election.

Academy students paired up with an adult – parent, aunt, uncle, grandparent – and took a post at one of the city's polling places. They phoned in election results to WGTD from those polling places – before they were taken to City Hall to be officially counted. Because of this, they were able to offer unofficial numbers well in advance of the release of City Hall results. The partnership helped both sides – WGTD received early election figures and students got a great hands-on civics lesson and inside look on the election process as well as how elections are covered by the media.

### **Scholarly advice**

Mary Koster will be hosting Fulbright scholar Ahmet Selcuk Akgul April 9 to April 13. He will be promoting the understanding of Islamic civilization and today's Muslim world and will attend and present in classes, attend advisory board meetings and take part in other events. Akgul, from Istanbul, Turkey, will be hosted by the Wisconsin Technical College System International Committee and will visit 10 technical colleges March 14 to April 19. Those who would like Akgul to speak in their classroom or work on curriculum issues can contact Koster at Ext. 2510 or e-mail here at [kosterm@gtc.edu](mailto:kosterm@gtc.edu).

### **Davidson Penns comments in publication**

Debbie Davidson, executive director, Advanced Technology Centers for the Workforce and Economic Development Division, was recently quoted in the Central Penn Business Journal for her leadership in the development of advanced technology centers. The Harrisburg, Penn., publication was writing a story on the William F. Goodling Regional Advanced Skills Center in York, Penn. The center is based heavily on Gateway's advanced technology centers.

*Smarties is a publication of Gateway's Marketing and Communications Department.*